



**County of Maui**  
**Public Information Office**  
200 South High Street, 9th Floor  
Wailuku, HI, USA 96793-2155  
Phone: (808) 270-7866  
Fax: (808) 270-7870

# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Ellen Pelissero  
Public Information Officer

## Upcountry water shortage

Due to very high demand, the Lower Kula Water System reservoir dropped to a critical level of 7.0 million gallons over the weekend.

"The reservoir has a 50-million gallon capacity," said Department of Water Supply Director George Tengan, "and had been hovering around 11 million gallons, but weekend demand really drove it down."

Taken in their totality, reservoirs serving Upcountry are near capacity (100 million gallons), but water from the lower system -- which is pumped daily to compensate for the low capacity at the Olinda Treatment Plant -- when combined with high holiday weekend usage, placed an unusually great demand on the upper system.

Upcountry consumers are asked to immediately cutback their water usage. Suggestions for cutback include:

1. Do not wash cars, boats, driveways, etc.
2. Do not irrigate unnecessarily
3. Reduce shower times
4. Wash full loads of laundry only

Affected Upcountry areas include Haiku, Makawao, Olinda, Piihola, Haliimaile, Pukalani, Oma'opio-Pulehu, Kula, Keokea, Ulupalakua and Kanaio.

For further information, contact the Department of Water Supply at 270-7816.

copy: Mayor Alan M. Arakawa  
Keith A. Regan, Managing Director  
Dain P. Kane, Council Chair  
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Jeffrey T. Pearson, DWS Deputy Director  
DWS Division Heads  
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